

# AIA Trust



Insurance & Financial Programs for  
AIA Members & Components

## RESOURCES FOR EMERGING PROFESSIONALS

The AIA Trust is a *free risk management resource* for AIA members! The AIA Trust continuously updates its resources for members on the AIA Trust website, [www.TheAIATrust.com](http://www.TheAIATrust.com) (this is *separate web site* from the AIA web site). Under the “[Member Resources](#)” button located at the top of the home page, you’ll find a host of member & firm resources and tools. New risk management articles, studies, and reports are added monthly. The AIA Trust has compiled a number of resources listed below that may be helpful to emerging professionals.

### **AIA TRUST RESOURCES FREE TO AIA MEMBERS**

#### **New Starter Firm Incentives for AIA Members**

[New Starter Firm Incentives for AIA Members](#) is a webinar that takes less than 8 minutes to review—and offers an array of special benefits to AIA members *starting brand new firms!* Included in the presentation is a detailed instruction page so that AIA members with eligible new firms may apply for various freebies, including publications and free insurance coverage.

#### **Making the Transition to Running Your Own Firm**

Making the Transition to Running Your Own Firm: Insurance Coverage Issues for Professional Practices is a report developed by the Victor O. Schinnerer and the CNA companies in conjunction with AIA Trust to assist licensed design professionals in operating a professional practice which presents so many risks. [Click here](#) for solutions for managing those risks by transferring them appropriately.

#### **Small Firm Programs**

The summary, What Does AIA Trust Offer Small Firms? covers the AIA Trust programs aimed at the small firm—to help provide for the negotiating power of a large firm. [Find out what benefit programs are best suited for small firms and sole proprietors \(PDF download\)](#). All programs referenced are located on the [Trust website](#).

In addition, the AIA Trust offers a host of free resources to members, aimed primarily at those in small firm practice. Some have already been mentioned here, but [click here for a complete list](#) or visit the [Member Resources page](#) of the Trust website.

#### **Annual Survey of the Professional Liability Insurance Industry**

Each year the AIA Risk Management Committee, with its NSPE and ACEC counterparts and with input from the AIA Trust, surveys the professional liability insurance industry to identify trends and offerings, and share insights about members' needs. The AIA Commended Professional Liability Insurance Program offered by Victor O. Schinnerer (VOSCO) and CNA still checks out as the best. [Click here to access the actual survey results](#).

## **Risk Management Tips**

Quarterly, the AIA Trust sends a [risk management newsletter](#) filled with important tips and new information to AIA members who are firm owners or managers. All articles are posted to the Trust website so they can be accessed at any time. Organized by important topics such as business coverage and safety issues, you can find insights valuable to your office and home.

## **Cutting Edge Topics & Firm Management Insights**

As a member benefit, the AIA Trust regularly commissions experts to author white papers on cutting edge topics important to architects in managing their risks and running their practices successfully. Recent topics include the evolving Standard of Care about how increasing “opportunities of innovation” put architects in an extremely difficult position, *needing to manage constant expectations of finding new ways of building projects better, faster, cheaper and greener*. The paper outlines some of the principles, processes and basic strategy to enable members to keep pace with the many changes in technology and sustainability that impact their practice. A paper on the ABC’s of E-Data addresses important liability issues such as rules of discovery requirements, *management of electronic information and handling of Metadata* that can divulge information detrimental to your firm. The paper offers AIA Members steps to help ensure appropriate protocols and minimize risks. Check back frequently for the latest information on [topics vital to your practice](#)—and your success.

## **AIA Trust Self Assessment Tests**

In cooperation with AIA/CES, the AIA Trust is pleased to provide opportunities for AIA Members to earn learning units in areas that relate to the activities of the Trust. Each of the [Self Assessment Tests](#) provides one learning unit. You will find that the Trust website, as well as the webinars that the Trust is developing, provide the overview and answers you need to complete successfully these tests.

## **Scholarships**

[The AIAS/AIA Trust Scholarship Program for Emerging Professionals](#) has a goal to assist students with their educational pursuits by helping to minimize their financial obligations. This scholarship program is primarily intended to assist students with financial need by helping to pay their tuition and/or other direct educational expenses. Scholarships of \$750 each will be awarded to qualified individuals, limited to AIAS members in their fifth year of an undergraduate professional degree or their first year of a graduate professional degree.

